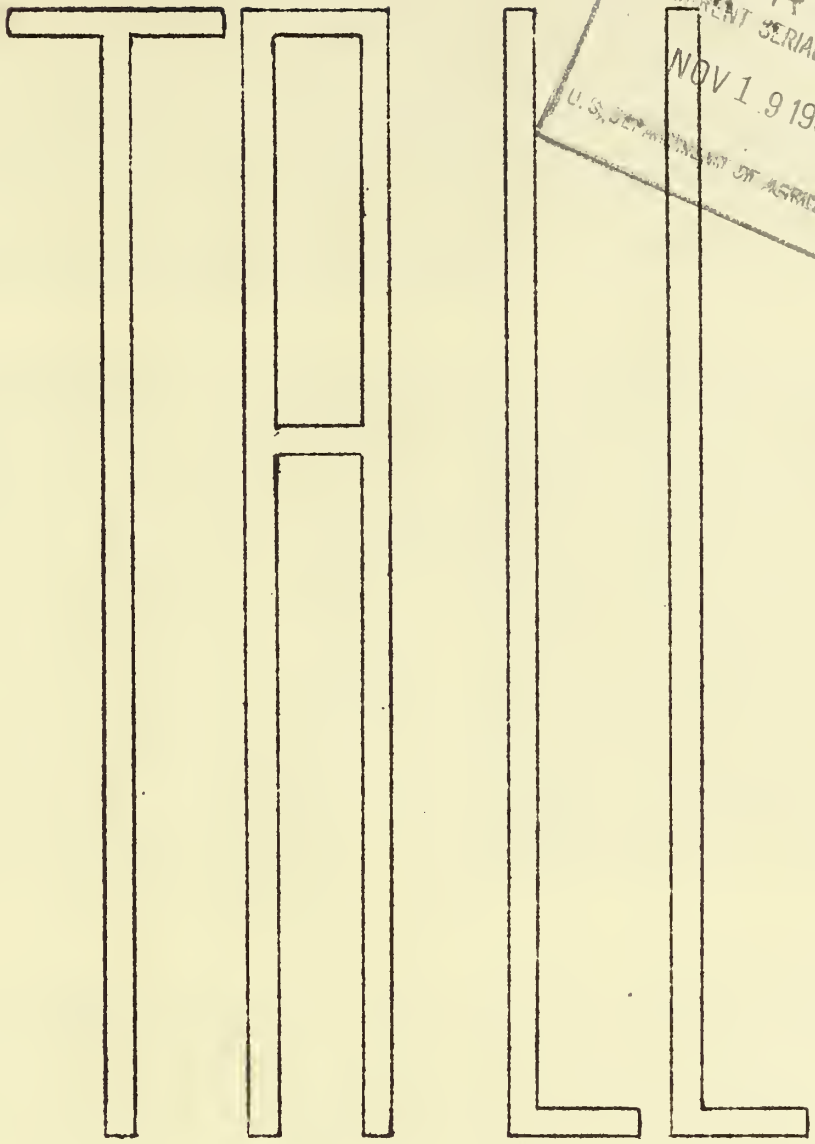
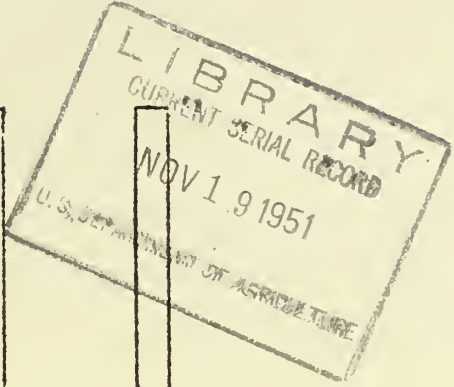


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CORN NEWS

FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION

DES MOINES, IOWA

AUGUST, 1951

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PLEASE NOTE - Administrator Lassetor will broadcast on the "American Farmer" coast-to-coast network show of the American Broadcasting Company, Saturday, September 8, during the period from 12:30 P.M. to 1:00 P.M. EST - 11:30 CST.

He will be interviewed by Milton Bliss of the USDA's Radio and Television Service, on the subject "Better Farming Strengthens Family Farm".

Other participants on the broadcast will be Gilbert Wilhite, borrower, and his Supervisor, Virgil Heid, both of Knox County, Indiana; and Cobb L. Hanes, borrower, and his Supervisor, Harry Neal, both of Morgan County, Georgia.

If you have the opportunity, pass this information on to County Committee members, FHA borrowers, and others.

MAGNUSON BILL - The Magnuson-Albert Bill S.684 was passed by Congress and has been signed by the President. Briefly, the Bill authorizes the Secretary to insure mortgage loans up to \$25,000,000 each year without regard to farm population or the prevalence of tenancy, retaining the \$100,000,000 limitation on insurance of mortgages in any one year. Authorizes loans for reorganization of the farm enterprise or the making of major changes in farming practices. Increases the limit on initial production and subsistence loans from \$3,500 to \$7,000 and increases the limit on the total outstanding indebtedness of any one borrower from \$5,000 to \$10,000. Extends from 5 to 7 years the term of repayment for operating loans, and the maximum period which a borrower has to liquidate his indebtedness to be eligible for further financial assistance. Authorizes the Secretary to delay his request for refinancing until the borrower has acquired a sufficient equity in the farm to enable the holder of the insured mortgage to refinance the loan on an uninsured basis, and authorizes deferment of the initial payment on both real estate and production and subsistence loans to a date two full crop years after the date of the loan.

GI WINNERS - Bayard W. Scott, a young GI farmer in Benton County, was placed first in the WHO-American Legion-State Fair sponsored GI Farm Family contest and Howard Anderson an OL borrower from Floyd County second. Scott is presently an FHA County Committeeman in Benton County and was formerly an FSA County Supervisor in Madison County. Of additional interest is the fact that the farm he now owns and operates was purchased from a former County and District Supervisor, Howard J. Dodge. In addition to Anderson, two other FHA borrower families, Ralph L. Mitchell (OL), Van Buren County, and Howard R. Harper (FO), Appanoose County, were district winners and were in the final contest at the State Fair. H. L. Young, FO Chief, was one of the five judges in the state finals, as he has been since the contest started. Incidentally, he reported that he was mighty proud of the records of the two district winners from Van Buren and Appanoose Counties and that the County Supervisors and local communities could also well be proud of them. While they were not winners in this contest they are "winners" by virtue of their good farming practices and the active interest they are taking in community affairs.

TWO MORE SUGGESTIONS ADOPTED - Mrs. Dorothy M. TeStrake, County Office Clerk in the Muscatine Office, recently received a \$25.00 cash award for the suggestion that for mechanical reasons the bottom line for the date and signature on Form FHA-144 be raised. Mrs. TeStrake has been with FHA only since October 1950.

More recently, Miss Anna Schmid, County Office Clerk at Spencer, was notified of her fourth acceptance of a suggestion. The amount of the cash award will be determined by the Suggestions Award Committee when the suggestion is included in the revised form. The suggestion was to provide space for the mailing address of the FO borrower in the upper right corner of Form FHA-528. Miss Schmid has submitted a total of nine suggestions and four acceptances represent a high percentage.

A GOOD RECORD - As of June 30, 1951, the original amount of our unpaid Operating Loans was \$5,887,420.00. Of this amount \$1,772,275.28 principal had matured and \$1,739,097.10 or 98.1 repaid. There had also been made \$74,335.87 in prepayments. The percentage of matured principal paid as of June 30 is, of course, more favorable than as of December 30 due to the length of time since most notes become due. The record, however, is still good and should convince the general public and the Congress that the confidence in borrowers by the County Committees and Supervisors has been well placed.

June 30 figures also indicate that for all Operating Loans made since 1935, if the program were to be closed out today, the Government would get back all the principal, plus slightly over 80% of the interest collected. This record should get progressively better as the heavier losses of the depression years of the 30's are spread over a larger volume of business. If those years were omitted, the interest return would probably jump to at least 90%.

NEW FRONTIERS - For at least 50 years people have wished there were new agricultural frontiers to develop. The 1950 census shows that right here in Iowa there were in 1949, 3,730,722 acres of pasture that were not wooded nor rotation pasture - in other words, the open pasture that will carry one cow to about two to three acres for a brief period in the late spring and early summer. The carrying capacity of these 3,730,722 acres could easily be doubled and in most cases trebled with the know-how we already have. If the carrying capacity were only doubled it would be the equivalent of adding 11,658 new 160 acre farms. There are still many new agricultural frontiers right here in Iowa that are already "staked out" and ready to develop and FHA can make a real contribution by seeing that every borrower family - and don't overlook the landlords - is encouraged and guided in their pasture improvement programs. Don't forget that the fall is a good time to get started.

CLIPPINGS POURING IN - The evidence is piling up in the state office that FHA activities are getting reasonably good coverage in local newspapers.

We appreciate this cooperation because for the past several years we were quite certain the number of clippings sent in did not fairly represent the manner in which the public was being informed about FHA. The one kind of clipping we would like to see more of is where the Supervisor gets the editor or reporter to make farm visits with him and then prepares his own story on what he saw. Supervisors are usually agreeably surprised at the news value placed on the progress being made by FHA families. One or two such clippings each month from each office should not be too much to expect.

FROM SUPERVISOR HYDE'S QUARTERLY REPORT - We never say "Goodbye" to retiring Committeemen, but we do want to say "Hello" at this time to the new men whose appointments were effective July 1st. W. Burdett Hanna of Marion replaces Clifford Bowdish in Linn County; Gerald J. Bedard of LaPorte City replaces Eustice Golinvaux in Black Hawk County; Austin H. Mead of Manchester replaces Paul Munson in Delaware County; and George T. Lindsay of Masonville replaces Arthur Satterlee in Buchanan County. To those of you retiring, a word of thanks and appreciation for the time you have given us. We in FHA realize how important your contributions have been to the success of this program. Families you've helped will remember you too. I'll stop to see you when I can. You do the same.

ONE FOR RIPLEY - Floyd County farmer Wilbur G. Heise, former GI, found out how to erect a barn on a barnless 120 acre farm he purchased following the war.

During the war he saved enough for the down payment on the farm and started operating it. He received a circular in the mail from the local FHA office explaining the Farm Housing Act of 1949 and stopped in at the Charles City FHA office. When he left the office he had applied for a \$3,500 barn loan and in addition had applied for acceptance in the local GI On Farm Training Class. His instructor was Paul Auringer, former FSA District Supervisor.

To accomplish quick construction a field day was held. His class buddies, under the leadership of two boss carpenters, erected the barn for him in short order. He has a good barn and will be able to turn back about \$800 of unused loan funds.

IN THE MONEY - Supervisor Hoffman at Centerville says he is proud of Bruce Appler, 16 year old son of FO borrower Mildred D. Appler. Bruce won the Appanoose County (Adult) Contour Plowing Contest and went on to place second in the district. Bruce is carrying through a tradition of soil conservation - - - accomplishments which began when the Appler family first became borrowers of the Farmers Home Administration.

The Decorah Office with only one Collection Only case as of July 31 was low in the state. Bloomfield was close with two.

WE WOULD AGREE, "IT PAYS" - "It pays to farm the best you can", are the words used by Rex S. Minor, Route 1, West Liberty, Iowa, an Operating Loan borrower from Cedar County, as he informed the County Supervisor that a landlord had just offered to rent him his 240 acre farm on a five year lease. This farm, valued at approximately \$75,000.00, is being rented on a livestock share lease. Mr. Minor was reluctant at first to consider the farm, as there was a half mile dirt road to the buildings, but after he stated his objection the landlord agreed to gravel the road for him.

Mr. Minor has made outstanding progress during the time he has had his FHA loan, and was awarded the Swine Achievement Award at the Farmers Home Administration annual Achievement Day at Iowa State College last June 29. Last year he raised an average of 8.6 pigs per litter from 35 sows. This years average appears to be even better if his fall pig average comes through as expected.

After considering all the factors, it is easy to see why the landlord is anxious to have this type of family on his farm under a livestock share lease.

FOREIGN VISITORS - Early in July Mr. Omar Oemarjono of Indonesia, a representative of the Extension Department of that country's government, was on the campus of Iowa State College and called Supervisor McElhinney and asked if he might visit some FHA families.

He took him to several families having different farming programs in effect and this was the first trip he had made while in the United States with anyone connected with the Farmers Home Administration. He had visited several different agricultural colleges in the East before coming to Ames.

He was much impressed with the way the FHA program operated and thought that some of the methods might be inculcated in the farming set-up in Indonesia.

On July 19 Supervisor Bockhoff was host to three Germans who were visiting in Iowa under ECA auspices and representing their farm organizations. They were taken to see typical FO, FH and OL loans. These were the first farms they had been on in the states and from their comments the visits were of great interest to them.

SHOULD BE A PRIZE FOR THIS - Mrs. John C. Eaton of Route 2, Burlington, winner of the Iowa State Horticulture Food Preservation Award for the past two years, is planning on a 2000 quart goal this year. A surprise to Kenneth R. Bower, State Field Representative, on a recent joint visit to the Eaton farm with Supervisor Hazlitt was the fact that Mrs. Eaton not only canned the regular line of produce but also such foods as ground hog and coon meat. This year she planned to can about 100 chickens, however, the catch was that the chickens were in the coons, consequently, the Eatons will have their chicken one way or another. For Mr. Bower's information, Mrs. Eaton has now located a jar of coon meat which he may have for the asking.

THE AMERICAN SPIRIT - The borrowers of FHA in Hancock, Winnebago and Cerro Gordo Counties responded to the call of the Supervisor to give one days labor in helping Galen L. Hauge clean up his farmstead after the July 11 tornado. There was a good response and the men and women came with their rakes, axes, saws and hammers. The place certainly looked different when the folks left for home that evening. The Hagues appreciated this gesture very much. It was the picture of the Hauge farm that appeared in the Des Moines Tribune showing all buildings except the house destroyed.

UNUSUAL SOURCE OF REPAYMENT - Sophus Nelson, OL borrower in Emmet County, recently made a \$554.70 repayment on his loan, six months before the payment was due. This is nothing unusual except that it represented a part of the \$787 Sophus had received for sweating it out two years in a German prison camp during World War II. He still plans to make a regular payment from farm income this winter. The county office employees thought he might have felt inclined to use this particular compensation to "splurge" a little, but it shows once again the importance of character in selecting good applicants to use the limited OL funds.

LITTLE WILD LIFE MIXED IN - Arrangements are being made between Frank Erdman, John Holden, Darrell Earp, and Carl Burgett, Dallas County FO borrowers, and the Wild Life Commission for the establishment of small wild life areas on their farms. In addition to plantings of multiflora roses and some conifers furnished by the Commission, some of the borrowers are planning, at the suggestion of the Supervisor, on planting a variety of small fruits and berries in these areas. Supervisor Bockhoff thinks this will be an added interest to the kids who are also a form of "wild life".

A GOOD RECORD - In reading the August issue of the Missouri News Letter, we noticed a word of commendation to 17 county offices that have averaged at least one real estate loan per month during the past fiscal year. That caused us to check the Icwa figures and it was found that seven offices would qualify on the same basis. They were Centerville, Chariton, Mount Pleasant, Osceola, Charles City, Dubuque, and West Union. Maybe some kind of an award should be offered to County Supervisors who reach this goal. There are several more offices that should join this select group for 1952.

FOUR 4-H CLUB WINNERS - We have had so many reports on children from borrower families and their winnings at recent fairs that it would not be practical to try and include them all in Tall Corn News, so we decided not to report any of them. It is worth recording, however, that someone is certainly encouraging the youngsters to participate in these worthwhile youth activities and we hope and believe that in many cases at least it is the County Supervisor. Keep up the good work.

The state office would like to be advised of all field days planned for this fall, big or little. We like the kind referred to in this issue of TCN held by Supervisor Beckhoff.

PLAYING SAFE - Joe Korte, Operating Loan borrower of Winnebago County, recently reported he lost his corn and oat crop from hail. By selling a large share of his spring pigs as feeders he will make his FHA payment and keep going. When he gets his hail insurance money this fall he will buy feed. To complete his plans to "play safe", Joe put his first hay cutting up as grass silage.

PLENTY OF GOOD PRACTICES - On August 2nd the Appanoose County Contour Plowing Match and Conservation Demonstration was held on a farm adjoining the farms of the three Morlan Brothers, FO borrowers in Appanoose County. For part of the field day, tours were arranged over the Morlan farms. Approximately fifty people, including businessmen from Centerville and farmers in the area, made the tour of these farms. Supervisor Hoffman explained briefly to them the details of our program and gave them an opportunity to see some of the better farm management practices being carried out on these farms. The group had an opportunity to see some Ladino seeding and grass silage on the Robert L. Morlan farm; different rates of fertilizer application on corn, diversion terraces, and Reeds Canary Grass on Cecil L. Morlan's farm; and, pasture renovation, the different crop rotations and new Ladino seeding on Lorraine K. Morlan's farm.

After the tour Supervisor Hoffman made a tape recording on the different practices that had been seen on the tour which was used over the local radio station.

WHY NOT STRAWBERRIES? - A few years ago Arthur DeVore of Davis County bought a rough 200 acres for less than \$10.00 an acre. The farm was considered completely worn out and neighbors were wondering how this large family could ever expect to make a living.

Today they know it can be done for the DeVores live better than most of their neighbors. The farm is now producing apples, pears, peaches, apricots, plums, cherries, red raspberries, black raspberries, blackberries, boysenberries, gooseberries, grapes, sweet potatoes, peanuts, popcorn, horseradish, cauliflower, cantaloupe, watermelon - just about any fruit or vegetable you can name.

They have also done something to the farm land as it is now producing sweet clover, alfalfa, trefoil and lespedeza. The DeVores have over twenty head of Shorthorn cattle and forty head of hogs. With the exception of some corn that is bought, all of the feed is now produced on the farm.

WHY NOT IRRIGATE THE GARDEN? - Mr. and Mrs. Knox Montgomery who have lived ten years on an FO farm in Cherokee County, found to their surprise that the excessive rainfall this year has developed a spring in their basement. Pumping had little effect on the water level so, as the house is located on the top of a small hill, a drainage tile was laid and the water drained out to the surface some 250 feet down the hill.

MORE GRASSLAND FARMING - Mr. Albert Douglas, an FO borrower in Jefferson County who operates a farm of 130 acres, with a limited amount of cropland, is rapidly converting his farm to a planned grass and livestock unit. His acres of corn are limited to the land he is getting ready for reseeding of legumes, for either hay or pasture.

When asked how soil conservation practices had helped him this wet season, he stated, "First - I lost very little of my top soil through excessive run-off; second - preceding years of soil conservation practices on a certain field enabled me to have one of the best fields of corn in the neighborhood, or ever on my farm; and, third - the wet season was ideal for my new seedings of birdsfoot trefoil and other legumes seeded this spring." He also stated that his improved pasture due to the wet season had produced an abundance of feed for his livestock.

The County Soil Conservation personnel have told Supervisor McLean on several occasions Mr. and Mrs. Douglas are doing the best job in the county in handling a poor farm to convert it to grass and livestock. Their farm would not be an economic farm unit for many families - but it is for them.

CONVINCING INCREASES - Two Fayette County FO borrowers who have maintained a good soil conservation program for the past number of years have demonstrated what a good soil program will do for increased yields.

The yields of corn and oats as recorded on the Farm Family Analysis form show the following results:

George D. Grimes, West Union:

	<u>Corn</u>	<u>Oats</u>
Average yields first 5 years on program -	52 bu.	31.6 bu.
Average yields the last 5 years -	59 bu.	57.6 bu.
Percentage increase -	13.5%	57.6%

Abe Habeger, Elgin:

Average yields first 4 years on program -	48 bu.	28 bu.
Average yields last 3 years -	68 bu.	47 bu.
Percentage increase -	41%	67%

IN THE NICK OF TIME - Supervisor Bob Walters of Spencer reports that on a recent visit to an OL borrower he found the borrower about to set fire to a pile of corn cobs. Walters suggested the cobs be hauled to the field and spread out and further advised some landlords had made tenants move because the tenant burned the corn cobs. Before Walters left the farm the landlord drove in and noticing the cob pile asked his tenant his intentions regarding the cobs. "I plan on hauling the cobs to the stubble field", was the tenant's reply. "You had better!", returned the landlord.

"CORN" COUNTIES BEING CHALLENGED - All conditions continue favorable for Alfred Mason, Operating Loan borrower, Allamakee County, to have a field or two qualify for the 100 bushel per acre corn club. Mason's farm is located on Bear Creek, and has bottom fields that carry a heavy corn rotation. Flash floods in June and July of 1950 ruined the crop and covered the fields with trash. By much hand work last fall all the fields were cleared and returned to normal appearance. Plantings this year were completed at the usual time. At this date a beautiful stand offers excellent prospects for a bumper yield.

McVICKER'S HILLS - A newspaper story appearing in the Mason City Globe-Gazette tells of the benefits of contour farming on the J. C. McVicker farm in Cerro Gordo County. The article points out that despite a six-inch down-pour in June, plus the other excessive rains, there are no ditches on the McVicker farm. Of course, it always is left to a reporter to come up with a name. In this instance "McVicker's Hills" seems to be a very appropriate name for this FO farm. This is the farm on which the Cerro Gordo USDA Council held their Conservation Field Day in 1950.

GOOD CROP INSURANCE - The Morlan Brothers, FO borrowers in Appanoose County, are again proving that "you can beat the weather". In good years any kind of farming gets by, but during the bad years only good farming gives a reasonable return on the investment. High soil fertility and good management are the Morlan Brothers' crop insurance for unfavorable weather conditions. Their prospects for corn crops are excellent while many of their neighbors will get little or nothing. Their foresight in using surface silos has assured them of an abundance of forage for livestock this winter.

WE'LL BET IT WORKS - Henry County residents are watching with interest the results of ground silos on the farms of two Henry County Farm Ownership borrowers. David Williams, who lives north of Mt. Pleasant, built an above-ground silo patterned after the one constructed by Clarence Hill of Dallas County and featured as a news story in the June issue of the Farm Journal. As Dave was building a farm pond, it took but little additional expenditure to lay the above-ground silo from the excess soil being taken from the pond. He was planning on putting no preservative with his grass silage and also no covering on the top. Francis Hays meanwhile has a trench silo 60' long and 20' wide, ranging from 2' to 4' in depth and built with a bulldozer for \$15. Ho, likewise, was putting grass silage in with no preservative. For a covering, he planned to use sawdust. It is hoped this fall to have a field tour to several farms in Henry County which will include stops at these two farms for the visitors to view the results of these two types of silos.

WELL REWARDED - When discussing the 100 bushel corn club contest with a borrower, Supervisor Lylo Crisman was asked by the borrower, "What do I get if I raise 100 bushels of corn per acre?" Crisman answered, "You will get 50 bushels more corn per acre than your neighbors." This seems to be a good answer.

SCARED - Supervisor J. Hugh Braby reports he spent most of his Thompson office day on Tuesday, June 26, listening to stories and reports of damage caused by the tornado of the night before. Operating Loan borrower, Sam Bell, came rushing in and asked Braby to come right out to his farm. When Sam finally got his breath, he explained to Braby the storm did not damage his farm but he wanted Braby to get some pictures of the contoured corn on Bell's farm and also some pictures of erosion damage on the up-and-down planting on Bell's landlord's farm, located across the road. It seems Borrower Bell has received approval of his landlord to contour on the rented farm, but the landlord will not contour on the farm he operates. Braby got the pictures and they will be used.

PIONEERING SPIRIT GETS CONVERTS - Henry C. Reimer, new FO borrower in Clayton County, is not by nature the pioneering sort, but almost unwillingly he has his neighbors about convinced of what contouring and strip cropping will do to soil erosion loss.

He bought a rough farm with an FO loan this past winter. He, of course, agreed to have an SCS plan developed to include contour and strip farming. When he moved on the place this spring he found that none of the neighbors did any contouring and that they thought it was a lot of foolishness. He stuck to his agreement, however, and is now glad that he did as his contoured fields suffered very little erosion during the heavy June rains, and since that time he has had two neighbors stop in asking if they could go through his fields to see how much good was done. One of them said he was going to put all of his corn in on the contour next year.

LIKES WISCONSIN HEIFERS - The Denniston family of near Merrill in Plymouth County, purchased 12 Wisconsin heifers in March of 1951. They were 8 weeks old and weighed about 160 pounds each. They have gained about $1\frac{1}{2}$ pounds per day. The calves had been started on calf meal and no milk so Mr. Denniston continued the same feed, adding oats and hay - all they would clean up each day until they were 14 weeks old, then changed to Ames pellets $\frac{1}{2}\#$, oats 2#, ground ear corn 2# per head per day with alfalfa hay, full feed, with salt and mineral, and all the fresh water they wanted. The calves were kept in dry lot and shed. He has had no sickness and no vet service on these calves.

ANOTHER GOOD HERD ON THE WAY - Harold W. Krusemark, FO borrower from Rose Hill, Mahaska County, exhibited some of his Brown Swiss cattle at the Southern Iowa Fair and Exposition, Oskaloosa, this year and came home with three first place ribbons, two seconds, and one third. This is getting to be a pretty regular performance with Harold.

FRIEND OF THE FARM FLOCK - Some folks feel that chickens do not pay their way on many farms. Mrs. James Woollard, Operating Loan and Farm Development borrowers in Palo Alto County will, however, contest this point of view.

For the 6 months period January 1, 1951 to July 1, 1951 they sold \$1044 in eggs from their flock of 260 hens. Their records reveal that approximately one-half of this income is over feed costs. Mrs. Woollard says that the secret of her success with the chickens is work. She feeds them a warm mash all through the cold months consisting of 35% protein concentrate with ground oats and salt added, along with oyster shells and a little corn. She feeds her chickens at the exact time twice a day and sees to it that they have plenty of warm water at all times. The hens are still laying, but since her pullets are now dropping a few eggs, she plans on selling them and confining the pullets to the chicken house.

NEARLY DOUBLED HOG CROP - Last year Carl Schnoor, Operating Loan borrower of Jackson County, raised fifty-two pigs from ten sows. This year sixty days before his sows farrowed, he started a feeding program worked out with a local feed dealer. This year his ten sows farrowed one hundred thirteen pigs, and he has ninety-one of them up to about one hundred pounds each. The cost of the commercial feed purchased is about \$600.00, and he estimates that \$200.00 worth of additional protein feed will get the hogs to market. He estimates his hogs will get to market at least two months earlier than his spring pig crop of last year.

DIDN'T TAKE LONG - Leo Chance, Adair County P&S borrower, has consistently marketed early hogs, but this year proved to be about his best. They went to market in July at 5 months and 1 week of age and averaged 204 pounds. He feeds a lot of ground alfalfa during the winter and spring prior to using alfalfa pasture.

WAS IT THE OL MEETING? - In February 1951 at the OL meeting hog production was discussed. On his visit to the Glenn Randolph farm recently Supervisor Sandholm was agreeably surprised to see that he had been converted to the clean ground system of raising hogs. The hogs had been farrowed on clover pasture and were showing wonderful results compared to the pigs that had been raised last year in his old lots near the barn.

IT CAN BE DONE - In 1945 a Chickasaw County CO received a loan to purchase a 120 acre TP farm. His name was Lawrence C. Bruening of New Hampton. He was an average farmer who had been operating farms of the same calibre. His progress has been slow, but impressive.

His cow production has increased from 229 pounds his first year in 1945 to 329 pounds in 1950. He has been elected County Chairman of the Breeders Co-op and with the oncoming heifers from artificial insemination expects to continue his butterfat increase.

His most impressive increase, however, is in his hog production. His farm family annual analysis shows the following increase in litter averages. 1945, 5.1 average; 1946, 6.6 average; 1947, 8.4 average; 1948, 7.4 average;

1949, 7.0 average; 1950, 10.1 average; 1951 spring 11.2 average. The above figures are hogs raised. His barn is now full of baby pigs - 9, 10, 11, 12 to the sow.

Lawrence says that his "good luck" with hogs is the result of pen breeding sows that are selected from large, good doing litters from quiet, friendly sows. All of his pigs trace back to one "grandma" that in 1949 farrowed and raised 22 pigs, repeated in 1950, raised (and marketed) 13 in the spring 1951 and has 11 fall pigs in her pen now.

He does not have much of a hog house, but uses the horse stalls and a corner of the haymow for farrowing quarters. They are pastured in clover. Last year the first 36 head sold at 5 months, 17 days, averaged 242 pounds. This year his spring pigs weighed up to 185 pounds on June 27 and on August 6 34 head were sold averaging 226 pounds at 5 months 12 days of age.

Last winter he sold bred gilts for \$100 - \$110 each and guaranteed litters of not less than 10. They all came through for him.

FIELD DAY ON HOG PRODUCTION - Carl O. Laughman and his landlord, Glon Rowe, a former FHA Committeeman, were hosts to 10 Operating Loan borrowers at Mr. Rowe's farm near Dallas Center Wednesday P.M., August 15th. This farm visit was set up primarily to assist the Supervisor, in a visual manner, in putting across some up-to-date swine management ideas. All but one of the OL borrowers invited were present, together with one committeeman and the G.I. instructor in Dallas Center.

A heavy rain had fallen the night before and everybody piled up on a flat bed hayrack, which was pulled by the tractor about three-quarters of a mile along a muddy lane to the hog pasture. The hayrack served as a lecture platform while Carl explained management details on 135 shoats farrowed in mid-April, now weighing about 180 pounds. The sows farrowed better than 8 pigs per litter in colony houses away from lots and other buildings. At weaning time the pigs were transferred to a fifteen acre alfalfa field with movable feed and water platforms and ample sun shelters. The pigs were hand fed just what corn and oats they could clean up. Supplemental 32% protein balancer containing aureomycin, antibiotics and trace minerals was fed daily in an amount equal to one-half pound per hundred weight live weight. Gilts for fall breeding, about 25, will be earmarked and separated soon. The rest of the bunch will be crowded for early October market.

The Supervisor stressed to those present that what Laughman was doing was within the reach of everyone present.

PLANNING AHEAD - 80 head of nice spring pigs are finding swell "pickings" on the Duane Olson farm in Calhoun County. Olson is a new OL borrower and has made plans for 3 hog pastures. These fields will be rotated to corn, oats and clover. Each year the new crop of hogs will find a new field of Red Clover ready for them. Incidentally, a herd of 5 Brown Swiss cows, being bred artificially, is also coming along nicely. Three new heifer calves are the pride and joy of the entire family.

RAISING THE AVERAGE - "Had little pigs by the bushel this spring", wrote Francis and Margaret Turner, OL borrowers in Monroe County, to County Supervisor Gene L. Hoffman. "Our first 14 sows farrowed 141 pigs and they weaned 120 for an average of 8.5 per litter." A good prospect for the Swine Production Award in 1952.

The interesting part of the story with Francis and Margaret Turner is the attitude of their landlord. Mr. Ullum, the landlord, who is 70 some years old, is an old timer who raises hogs on corn, water, in old lots, bluegrass pasture and no protein except what cracked soybeans they might find.

The Turners attended our 1950 FO meeting in Monroe County and Margaret sat there during the discussion of the swine program and took notes on practically everything said. Fortified with these notes and the hog management epistle the FHA office in Centerville had prepared, they confronted their landlord on the modern methods of raising hogs. "We are not sure whether they convinced or confused him with all their facts and figures", says Supervisor Hoffman, "but at least he gave them a more free rein on feeding and management." Then, Old Uncle John, the landlord, was worried about the sows having too many pigs.

MISS DRINKER'S OBSERVATIONS - Miss Gertrude Drinker of the P&S Division of our Washington Office spent the week of August 6 in Iowa and on the farm visits made observed particularly gardens and home food preservation and use. This was Miss Drinker's first visit to Iowa and we hope she comes back more often. A few of her observations as a result of the visits were - (1) Inadequate shelves for storage of canned food. Suggested temporary shelves by tenants with ample support in centers to keep shelves from collapsing from weight of jars. (2) Questioned economics of many small to medium sized poultry flocks. Suggested smaller flocks, just enough to supply eggs for family or flocks large enough to justify proper housing and labor saving equipment. (3) Many families eating too little meat, both pork and beef, because of its value on the market. Supervisor should definitely plan with families to correct this short-sighted policy. (4) More women should participate in local Extension group activities. Much help can be secured on home problems. (5) Now is the ideal time to select garden spot for next year and make plans for manuring and fall plowing. This should be a "must" with every farm visit made this fall. (6) Numerous families indicated no provision for estate in case of death of the husband. Wills are very simple instruments and will save much grief, trouble and expense for the survivors. Believes we should encourage more families to have wills prepared.

We agree with Miss Drinker in everyone of these observations and pass them on to County Supervisors as aids in doing a better job of supervising.

PERSONNEL ACTIONS - Mrs. Mary M. Hiatt, County Office Clerk in the Des Moines office for over ten years, resigned June 8, 1951, because of illness, and Mrs. Hazel F. Ward, an employee of the Veterans Administration, was appointed to fill the vacancy, effective June 20, 1951.

Mrs. Mae C. Huffman was appointed Assistant County Office Clerk at Bloomfield, Iowa, effective June 11, 1951.

Mrs. Mary Joe Terrell, Assistant County Office Clerk at Chariton, Iowa resigned July 20, 1951.

